

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'  
MILLENNIAL STAR

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*“When the world is in a state of true civilization, man will have ceased to contend against his fellowman, either as individuals, parties, communities, sects, or nations. This state of civilization will be brought about by the holy Priesthood of the Son of God; and men, with full purpose of heart, will seek unto Him who is pure and holy, even our great Creator—our Father and God.”*—BRIGHAM YOUNG.

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CENTENNIAL REVIEWS

ELDER WILLIAM D. CALLISTER

THE glorious Centennial Year of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is now history. Through one hundred years, the Church has triumphed over the onslaughts of the adversary. How well would the Prophet Joseph and many of his associates have loved to witness this day!

As one about to retire ponders over the joys of the day, so one might well recall the events of this outstanding year. And it is with pleasure that we look back over the achievements of 1930. True, many things might have been done better, and perhaps some opportunities have not been fully evaluated. But the past can always serve as a guide for doing better in the future.

PREJUDICE

Prejudice! That term is in the same category as evil, liar, murder and hypocrite. How it has blinded men's souls, keeping them in bitter darkness, and shackled their wills. So it has been from time immemorial. It was perhaps never greater through the ages than during the early years of the restored Church of Christ, when men used every means known to the human mind to avoid the disturbance of their erroneous conceptions of life.

The spread of truth is accompanied by acceleration: The longer it is known to man, the faster it spreads. During the past year, the wireless, telegraph and telephone, the train, steamship and

aeroplane, the press and other means of transmitting knowledge, have aided in promulgating truth, which in turn has begun to swamp error and terrorize prejudice.

Of late years, prejudice has been gradually disappearing. Those who at one time resorted to violence in attempting to impede the avalanche of truth, are now only manifesting their hatred of truth by evil-speaking or indifference. Those who were once indifferent, have, whether they realize it or not, incorporated parts of the restored Gospel into their religious ideas. But the past year has marked the greatest triumph over prejudice. It is practically nil. But must we lessen our efforts? No! We must renew them, redouble them if possible. Sitting back in our seats and taking our responsibilities lightly will defeat our purposes, for we have not yet won the fight over evil.

#### THE CHURCH AS A WHOLE

The Church of Jesus Christ has made vast, progressive strides in the past year, not only the Church as a body, but the individual members. Renewed activity and interest have been noted. The entire membership has appreciated, in greater or lesser degree, the meaning of "a Gospel century."

"The Glory of God is Intelligence" is still the motto. The attitude toward gaining knowledge and using it properly remains unchanged. Near the schools in Latter-day Saint communities, are being erected and managed Church institutes and seminaries for the spiritual instruction of youth. The erection of meeting houses for worship and amusement halls for leisure time activities has continued unabated throughout 1930.

Plans for rejoicing and the celebrating of the Restoration on various occasions during 1930 were well laid and were well carried out, at times even far beyond the expectations of the designers.

The Centennial General Conference sessions of last April will never be forgotten by those who witnessed them. It seems more than a mere coincidence that April 6th fell on Sunday. On that day, the Great Tabernacle in Salt Lake City was jammed with human forms, eager to partake of the spirit of the meetings. Thousands more crowded the ten-acre park around the Tabernacle. Tens of thousands of Saints heard the words of God's servants in their homes and regular gathering places through the wireless. The wireless also carried the proceedings of the meetings to perhaps hundreds of thousands in distant places who were aware of "One hundred years of 'Mormonism'" by the announcements given through the columns of thousands of periodicals and by the wireless. What a contrast to the little group of believers one hundred years before! And how different from the open-air gatherings in Nauvoo, when the Prophet and others strained their lungs to reach the ears of perhaps three or four thousand. And on this hundredth anniversary, tens of

thousands in distant lands enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord in small groups, listening to their own programs.

Then there was the great pageant, "The Message of the Ages", and indeed it was a message of the ages! Given in the Tabernacle on a specially constructed stage capable of accommodating the one thousand actors at one time, two hundred thousand people were thrilled with it during its thirty consecutive performances. Oberammergau had its "Passion Play", the Tabernacle its "Message of the Ages." It will go down in religious history as an epochal event of 1930.

People attended the Conference sessions from all over the world. Millions, perhaps hundreds of millions, knew it was the centennial of "Mormonism."

Two months later, in June, thousands of young men and young women, the youth of Zion, assembled in the Tabernacle for the most successful Mutual Improvement Association convention ever held. At that meeting, the "hope of Israel" unitedly pledged their obedience to the law—whether it be of man or God, and solemnly covenanted to "Carry On."

The Fall Conference—the 101st Semi-Annual Conference—carried on the same spirit as the Spring Conference. It is perhaps needless to comment that the Tabernacle was packed at every session, and that the wireless carried the messages of the Lord's servants to hundreds of thousands as it did six months before. At this Conference, President Grant exhibited a volume containing favourable clippings from three thousand newspapers, announcing the hundredth anniversary of "Mormonism."

The condition of the Saints, spiritually and temporally, during the year has been commendable. They are as faithful and devoted as in any previous year, as is being shown by their good works. A feeling of brotherly love prevails. The material wants of the unfortunate are being looked after. More missionaries are being maintained in the nations of the earth to proclaim the joyous message of salvation than ever before—over three thousand of them in active service. Increases in the number of tracts, pamphlets and Books of Mormon distributed are being recorded in every mission. The meetings of the Saints are well attended through the one hundred and four stakes and twenty-nine missions of Zion. The seven temples of the Lord have been thronged daily with earnest, sincere Saints who are not only working out their own salvation, but who are doing the necessary work for their departed loved ones. For these things, the Lord is blessing them. They have been less affected by the calamities of the year than other people. The Lord is prospering them. They have been spared to fulfil the measure of their creation.

The year brought with it many noteworthy literary achievements by the leaders and members of the Church, only a few of which can be mentioned here. Six volumes of comprehensive

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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Church history, from the beginning of the restoration through the April 6th celebrations of 1930, were published. Another excellent witness to the truth, one edition of which was published in England and another in America, was *The Life Story of Brigham Young*, which will be of great worth in correcting the falsehoods of the past. The Sunday night addresses over the wireless from Salt Lake City, instituted but recently, were carried on throughout the year by Apostle James E. Talmage. These discourses have also been published.

The leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ are recognized for their outstanding ability, their integrity, their faithfulness, their honesty and their reverence, among others than members of the Church. As time goes on, they become greater in the sight of their fellowmen. Senator Smoot, a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, daily rises in prominence. President Herbert Hoover recognized the ability of Elder J. Renben Clark a few months ago by appointing him the United States ambassador to Mexico. Others are gaining in national and international prominence for their scientific, educational, musical, artistic, literary and business activities.

At the close of the year, there are leading the Church the following who were called to their offices by revelation and were sustained at the Spring and Fall General Conferences by the members of the Church: Heber J. Grant as President, Anthony W. Ivins as first counselor, Charles W. Nibley as second counselor, the three forming the Quorum of the First Presidency; Rudger Clawson as President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and as members of the quorum, Reed Smoot, George Albert Smith, George F. Richards, Orson F. Whitney, David O. McKay, Joseph Fielding Smith, James E. Talmage, Stephen L. Richards, Richard R. Lyman, Melvin J. Ballard and John A. Widtsoe. Hyrum G. Smith is Presiding Patriarch. Brigham H. Roberts presides over the First Council of Seventy, with J. Golden Kimball, Rulon S. Wells, Joseph W. McMurrin, Charles H. Hart, Levi Edgar Young and Rey L. Pratt as members of the Council. Sylvester Q. Cannon, and David A. Smith and John Wells as first and second counselors, form the Presiding Bishopric.

#### THE EUROPEAN MISSIONS

The Centennial Year has been one of progress throughout the missions in Europe. The spirit of the occasion has been manifest in thought and deed—in interest and activity, despite national and language differences and the small groups of Saints.

Plans for celebrating the year were carefully laid and excellently carried to completion. Uniform three-day programs were carried out in the Spring district conferences of the missions, having "The Great Gifts of a Gospel Century" as the theme. A pageant was given at nearly every conference. Special two-day

celebrations were held in every branch on April 5th and 6th, which were times of rejoicing and expressing gratitude for the Gospel. Again a pageant was produced in each gathering, based upon the organization of the Church a century before. Many of these pageants which were presented, were taken from two booklets of plays and pageants, written by members in the European Missions, containing centennial anniversary themes. The fall district conferences manifested the same spirit of enthusiasm as the spring conferences. The gatherings were marked by increased attendance; some record meetings were held. As an example, in connection with the fall district conference held in Stockholm, Sweden, a magnificent concert was given by the Saints, attended by an intelligent and influential class of people, who were delighted by the rendition.

The auxiliary organizations have grown in numbers and activity during the past year, due to some extent to the uniformity and specially prepared programs and study courses.

A manual for the Relief Society during 1930, prepared specifically with European needs in mind, met with great favour; another manual written for 1931 has been written and is just off the press. The sisters are engaging in the Relief Society work heart and soul; they have been administering aid to the unfortunate, visiting the sick, comforting the sorrowing. They are also learning and teaching others how to overcome many of the difficulties of life and to adopt correct habits of living.

The Mutual Improvement Associations are likewise progressing; a special European study course was finished last spring, and the associations are now enjoying another one based upon the Doctrine and Covenants, adapted to European conditions. The M. I. A. is prospering greatly under the competitions and contests sponsored in the missions. 1930 saw increased activity in this kind of work. Much of the leisure time of the members of the associations is being occupied in preparing for contest work and in healthy recreation, such as socials, dances and outings. Protection from the vain pleasures of the world is thus afforded. The young girls of the Church are engaging more actively in the Bee-Hive work than ever before. A handbook for the missions has been in the course of preparation during the year. Numerous M Men classes have been organized to the delight of the young men. Boy Scout work is taking on greater proportions and is training many of the boys of the Church for noble manhood.

Primary work, which was recently begun in Europe, grew during the year with leaps and bounds. The mothers are appreciating the value of this work for building up character in their children. The children are thrilled with Primary activity. New organizations have been effected and are serving as powerful proselyting agencies.

The local Priesthood members of Europe have been stirred to

greater activity in the past year. Many branches were turned over to the charge of the local brethren, relieving the missionaries from branch duties that they might spend more time in field work, and promoting growth in the new officers. An instruction book for branch presidents is in the making and will soon be ready. Many of the branch presidencies in these missions, despite the conditions under which they labour, function as smoothly as the ideal bishopric in the wards of the Church. Organized and supervised branch teaching, a great means for keeping the brotherly feeling among members, is the desire of every branch presidency and has been more fully realized during the past twelve months. A course of study and instruction for the local Priesthood of Europe, for 1931, just off the press a few weeks ago, is being welcomed with open arms. Great opportunities lie ahead for the local Priesthood.

The missionary corps has increased during the past year. The Elders have done well during the past twelve months; closer supervision has been the aim of the mission presidents. Increases are noted in the amount of proselyting work done; more Books of Mormon were placed in the hands of interested persons than in previous years. Numerous invitations have been extended the missionaries to speak before clubs, debating societies, and even to gatherings of other religions denominations. They have been thanked for these addresses and invited back, a friendly feeling always being exhibited. A close feeling of brotherhood among the missionaries themselves is resulting through the missionary papers now being published in each mission. Several of these were founded during the past year. Missionary problems and questions are discussed, and news items and experiences are exchanged, to the spiritual benefit of all.

A Word of Wisdom tract compiled and published during the year, showing the practical results of obeying this law of the Lord, has been received with acclaim; the missionaries have found a new field of approach and new openings through its use. It is adapted to modern needs. An entire new set of tracts was projected during 1930, several of which have been written and when approved will soon be used.

Regular annual conferences of the European mission presidents and their wives were instituted some years ago. One of the most successful was held last June at Basel, Switzerland. Its benefits have already been felt and will be far-reaching. Cooperation in solving problems, projecting new ideas and plans, keeping in step one with another in study courses and policies, are some of the objectives of these meetings. Ideas are exchanged, all the missions benefitting from the experiences of the others.

The visit to each mission during last summer of Bishop John Wells, of the Presiding Bishopric, and Elder Arthur Winter, from the First Presidency's office, both converts from this side of the

water, helped extensively in correcting difficulties in the accounting methods of the missions, districts and branches. As a result, an entirely new accounting method has been adopted for the branches, and new sets of books have been published in the various European languages, which go into effect to-day. Bishop Wells and Brother Winter gave considerable counsel and advice in Priesthood matters to the local brethren who had the opportunity of meeting with them, and encouraged the Saints ever to keep faithful. The members of the Church in Europe are grateful for this visit.

The foundation of a new type of proselyting was laid during the year: The Word of Wisdom exhibit at the International Hygiene Exposition in Dresden. It was the first of its kind; it is to be repeated this summer, and will acquaint countless hundreds of thousands with health truths revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith. Over two million people passed through the exhibit last year, and more than two hundred thousand Word of Wisdom tracts were distributed. Other like exhibits are already projected and will unlock greater opportunities for spreading the Gospel.

Sound foundations were laid in Czecho-Slovakia last year where a mission was established barely eighteen months ago. Prejudice does not exist, and the missionaries have succeeded in making lasting friendships among the influential and business people. Many are interested in the Gospel. Lectures numerously attended have been given before university and other groups. The missionary force has doubled during the past year. The translation of the Book of Mormon into the Czech language has been completed; some songs of Zion, translated last spring for the April 6th celebrations, are being enjoyed by groups which gather each Sunday. Tracts have been printed. A substantial harvest of truth-seekers will soon be realized.

The activities of the year have been accompanied with newspaper and magazine reports in the leading periodicals of Europe. These comments, as a whole, have been very fair and favourable. Only in rare cases have articles appeared with an anti-"Mormon" taint. Especially was this fairness exhibited with regard to the publication of *The Life Story of Brigham Young*. Scores of excellent reviews of the book appeared in Great Britain, and a few in foreign languages, such as Danish and French.

The Book of Mormon, which has already been translated and published in many foreign languages, is being prepared for people in still other tongues. A devoted friend to the Latter-day Saints, a Roumanian, has rendered a translation into her native tongue as far as the book of Alma. Already the Spirit has borne witness to her that the record is divine. At the same time, a faithful brother of the Gospel is rendering a translation

(Continued on page 10)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1931

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**EDITORIAL**

**A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

HEARTFELT and sincere is to-day's greeting, "A Happy New Year." It is a good wish, for happiness is the very purpose of life!

Happiness is compounded of three main ingredients: Love, contentment and understanding. The New Year's wish may be fully realized if these be sought and secured.

Love comes first, love of God and all mankind. Love makes malice, slander and revenge impossible. It develops trust in other men, and opens the eyes to the many virtues of our neighbours. Love can not be persuaded to dwell in a hateful or distrustful heart. Love makes men resemble the Lord, and the greater the love, the nearer the divine likeness.

Contentment, the joyful acceptance of existing conditions, forms the peaceful pathway to the happy kingdom. Contentment means zest for daily labour and life. The truly contented man, neither inactive nor listless, forgets himself in his work, and thereby qualifies himself for greater deeds and his full destiny. Such contentment expresses itself as a restful, though resistless, full use of each day's opportunities. The contented man, having done his best, accepts to-day's results, and is stronger for to-morrow's tasks. Peace and progress are his companions.

Understanding comes to those who have eyes that see, ears that hear and wills that bend towards truth. Understanding is light and knowledge, the possession of the law. It explains events, affairs and principles—the whole of life. A comprehension of the meaning of existence is the gift of understanding. Fear flees from the understanding heart and courage enters it. The future looks bright to the understanding man.

Love, contentment and understanding will lift us into happiness. They may be cultivated and made mighty in the souls of men—especially of those who have the greater light of truth. The power to beget happiness lies within each person.

Perhaps we should say on New Year's Day, "Make this year a happy one."—W.

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"YE are to be taught from on high. Sanctify yourselves and ye shall be endowed with power, that ye may give even as I have spoken."—DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS, SECTION 43: 16.



## NEW YEAR GREETINGS

TO THE MISSIONARIES AND SAINTS OF THE BRITISH MISSION.

Dear Brethren and Sisters :

We have just passed through the most glorious year of our existence—the Centennial Year of the birth of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. How much we have to be thankful for !

We are now commencing the first year of the second hundred years of the Church. Let us determine to-day that we will serve God more fully than ever before. Let us decide that we will make more opportunities of presenting the Truth to more people than ever before.

The beginning of a New Year is a time for solemn meditation. The past is gone, but its pages are written, even blurred and in some cases blotted. What other thing can be expected of human beings? Before us lies the future. It is spotless like a blank sheet of paper. What will we write upon it? Will we let past obstacles again hinder our progress, or will we use them as stepping stones to success? It is written, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." Know ye not that every word which we utter, and every action which we do will come forth to meet us at the day of judgment! All mankind exist as responsible agents to that kind and loving Father who gave them life, talents, and possessions, with the power of choosing between good and evil, and the promise of a recompense, according to the choice which they make.

Ponder these things in your heart, for where much is given, much is required. Let us, therefore, in this coming New Year, humble ourselves before God and earnestly pray that He may guide us so that that which is written on our future page of life will show but few mistakes. Let us ask Him to pardon our failings and grant us grace and strength to overcome. Let us get the vision of the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ, and give our very best efforts to its accomplishment. Let us take as our motto the following words of our Saviour: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Sister Lund joins me in wishing you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year, and in praying that God will grant all of you His choicest blessings.

Cordially your brother,

A. WILLIAM LUND

Mission President.

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HE who follows another is always behind.

## CENTENNIAL REVIEWS

*(Concluded from page 7)*

of the Book into the Russian language. It will not be long before the labours of these two good people will be the foundation of missionary work amongst the peoples who speak these languages, who have not as yet been privileged to hear the fulness of the Gospel.

The members of the Church in Europe are now aiming with greater strength and effort to build up Zion in Europe—a place for the “pure in heart.” In order to have comfortable places in which to worship and invite their friends, the Saints are planning and have completed several new chapels. One was dedicated last spring at Lowestoft. Two were finished last year in Belgium, another in Copenhagen, Denmark, and still another in Holland; all four are ready for dedication. These meeting places are not elaborate, but are beautiful, yet modest buildings.

The spirit of the latter-day work is well illustrated in a brief account related elsewhere in this issue, telling of a young woman who, converted to the Gospel through the efforts of her devoted husband, traveled one thousand miles, a difficult journey, from the northernmost part of Norway to an organized branch of the Church to enter the waters of baptism. What a moving power faith can be!

The Latter-day Saints of Europe have done themselves proud this anniversary year. They have partaken eagerly of the spirit of celebration, and have sincerely exhibited a heart-felt gratitude for a century of Gospel truth. Their faithfulness, their integrity, their struggles to be in the world but not of the world, are praiseworthy.

At the conclusion of the year, the following brethren preside over the missions of Europe and the following sisters over the Relief Societies of the various missions: Of the European Mission, President John A. Widtsoe and Sister Leah D. Widtsoe; of the British Mission, President A. William Lund and Sister Josephine B. Lund; of the Czecho-Slovak Mission, President Arthur Gaeth; of the Danish Mission, President Holger M. Larsen and Sister Holger M. Larsen; of the French Mission, President Golden L. Woolf and Sister Beth C. Woolf; of the German-Austrian Mission, President Oliver H. Budge and Sister Margaret S. Budge; of the Norwegian Mission, President Hyrum D. Jensen and Sister Margaret A. Jensen; of the Netherlands Mission, President Frank I. Kooyman and Sister Elizabeth J. Kooyman; of the South African Mission, President Don Mack Dalton and Sister Geneve J. Dalton; of the Swedish Mission, President Gideon N. Hulterstrom and Sister Signe L. Hulterstrom; and of the Swiss-German Mission, President Fred Tadjé and Sister Eliza W. Tadjé. The Armenian Mission has not yet been re-organized.

During last summer, President and Sister Edward P. Kimball were released from their labours in the German-Austrian Mission to return to their home in America.

#### WORLD EVENTS

In reviewing the centennial events of the past year, it is well to consider the world-wide happenings and their relation to the Gospel. A broader view is then obtained, and things apparently insignificant become outstanding in their true relationships one to another.

Centennial anniversaries celebrating other than the restoration of the Gospel have taken place. For example, it was a hundred years ago last fall that the first railroad commenced operation, running between Manchester and Liverpool, England. A magnificent pageant reviewing various modes of travel from the dawn of time was presented in Liverpool. 1930 also marked one hundred years of freedom for the Belgian nation. Great celebrations took place in that country.

The scientific advances of the year have been greater than ever before; discoveries undreamed of a generation ago have been made. The astronomer, with his telescope, has pried open the lids of new universes and has come to many new conclusions through new-found truths, which closely match the revealed word of the Lord to Joseph Smith. The recent findings of scientists probing into the mysteries of the fourth dimension lead even the skeptic to believe that another plane of life about us which we cannot see, is not only possible, but probable. The closing year's advance with television leads to the conclusion that visions and heavenly manifestations may be actual realities and not merely the wanderings of the mind as heretofore judged. The man of science who has been working the past year with the molecule, the atom and the electron, when noting the organization and action of such minute particles, has come to the conclusion that such could not be the product of chance, but that a Great Intelligence or Mind is responsible. A certain famous scientist, delving into the remote past of humanity, gave to the world last year his definite conclusion that the brain capacity of prehistoric man was the same as it is to-day, implying that man has always descended from man. In fact, during 1930, the reaction in the scientific world from a materialistic view of life to a belief in a Supreme Power or Intelligence has been greater than ever before. The findings of the leading scientists of the world closely correspond to the revealed truths of the Lord to Joseph Smith, and great significance may be attached to their conclusions and theories of life, which are gradually shaping to conform with the teachings of the Prophet Joseph a century ago.

Last year was a year of economic difficulties. Business depression covered the earth. Unemployment, in many countries, be-

came worse; this, coupled with poor wages, has brought poverty and unhappiness into the lives of millions. The idleness which accompanies unemployment has caused moral depravity. The unequal distribution of earthly goods is breeding greater discontent. Those who are abounding in wealth crave more, while many of those who have little are covetous, and envy those who have much. Crime is more prevalent than ever before. The ranks of those who lust after the material things of the world without having to work for them, are increasing. This increase is one of the fundamental causes for the increased turmoil. A crisis seems imminent, and one wonders what the outcome will be.

Accompanying the greed for wealth during 1930 has been the greed for power. The spirit of domineering one over another caused political upheavals in many countries. Several nations in South America were last year disturbed by revolutions. Civil war in China has continued unabated. Riots have threatened the internal peace of many European countries. Jealousy among nations is also on the increase. Only a half-hearted desire for peace has been manifested on the part of some countries. While some have been limiting and reducing armaments, others have increased preparations for war with the excuse that such actions are necessary to preserve peace. This unrest is as a seething cauldron which will boil over at the least provocation. Although the London Naval Conference of last year was a noble attempt to preserve peace, war is far from being outlawed.

The past twelve months have been a period of great physical calamities. Earthquakes have shaken the foundations of many cities; hurricanes, tornadoes and floods have devastated large areas, causing immense property damage, injury to people and loss of life—greater, perhaps, than for many years past. These catastrophies are increasing in frequency, in severity and in damage done.

#### SIGNS OF THE TIMES

All these things are but signs of the times. Let him who learns of them understand their meaning. Mankind is sick—spiritually sick. The tonic is the application of the true principles of Christianity.

The world needs the true Gospel of Jesus Christ as never before. Men need to be taught the plan of salvation; when the purpose of life is understood, their minds will be focused on eternity rather than upon the vanities of earth. They will then seek for truth and abide in it; they will no longer yearn selfishly for material gain, nor seek power to tyrannize over their fellow beings. When humanity has the fulness of the law and abides by it, the Lord will stay the devastations of nature; peace, happiness and righteousness will then prevail in place of the present-day strife, turmoil, misery and evil-doing.

The Latter-day Saints have been spared from much of the past year's troubles. The Lord has blessed them abundantly—the reward for applying the principles of truth, measured according to obedience. The Lord has prospered them, protected them, and is now warning them of devastations yet to come. They can be avoided by using past experience as a guide: The Lord always blesses those who diligently seek to walk in His paths; those who travel other paths bring evil upon their own heads.

The present indifference to religion—indifference which is daily growing—is due to the inability of individuals to obtain peace of mind and spiritual satisfaction from the present-day religious offerings. Christianity, as it has been preached to them, seems to lack something of vital importance. When once disappointed, many neglect to look for something better. They will remain indifferent until they have tasted of the fulness of the Gospel.

Our duty during this year and in coming years is great. We have blessings through our knowledge of the plan of life and salvation; we must give it to others. The Lord has promised the Holy Ghost to bear witness to us of the truth of it, which will be given to everyone who searches with an honest heart. This work cannot be thrown down; it has been restored for the last time.

We stand at the dawn of a new century; the promises for a brilliant future are before us. How proper it is, then, that on this day, the first of the New Year, Handel's "The Messiah" should be rendered by the famous Tabernacle Choir and organ in Salt Lake City, being broadcasted over a network of the largest wireless stations in America, to be heard by millions of people!

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## A THOUSAND MILES FOR BAPTISM

EMIL JOH. EVENSEN

PRESIDENT OF NARVIK BRANCH, NORWEGIAN MISSION

FAR to the north, in the land of the midnight sun, Norway, in the little town of Narvik, is an organized branch of the Church with thirty-six members.

Some of the members live far from branch headquarters. For example, one of the brethren lives one hundred and thirty Norwegian miles (nearly one thousand English miles) north of Narvik. His home is at the northernmost point of Norway, by the frigid polar sea.

This brother had recently found a life's companion who did not belong to the Church. To her he taught the Gospel diligently, in the true missionary spirit, until his young wife received a testimony of the Gospel and desired membership in the Church.

In her eager zeal to realize her determination to enter the Church, this young, courageous woman, twenty-three years of age, undertook the long, hazardous journey of nearly a thousand

English miles, so that in an organized branch of the Church she might be baptized under divine authority.

On her journey she visited her childhood home and taught the Gospel to her parents. Then, on a beautiful day of August last (1930), she reached Narvik. There, by obedience to God's laws, receiving authoritative baptism, followed by the reception of the gift of the Holy Ghost, through the laying on of hands, she obtained her citizenship in the kingdom of God.

We who live in this north country are convinced that many of the people here are of the blood of Israel, heirs to the promises of old. This certainly gives joy to our constant efforts to spread the truth of the restored Gospel. Nevertheless, there are thousands upon thousands here who have never heard the message. Missionaries are needed; we have had none for years.

The long journey of this sister to receive baptism, seems wonderful to us.

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## BRISTOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE last District Conference of the British Mission for the Centennial Year was held in Bristol on Sunday, December 14th, 1930. The night previous to the Conference meetings, a District social was held at 21 Old Market Street, Bristol. A large number of the members and friends of the District enjoyed the program of games which had been prepared; refreshments were served by the Relief Society sisters.

The morning session was given over chiefly to the presentation of "The Awakening," a Word of Wisdom playlet which was ably presented by local members.

During the forepart of the afternoon session, brief but splendid talks were given portraying the histories of the auxiliary organizations of the Church. Following this, separate instructions were given to the Priesthood and Relief Society members by President A. William Lund and Sister Josephine B. Lund.

During the evening meeting, a few of the Elder missionaries in the field addressed the congregation. The audience was thoroughly inspired with the address on "Jesus Christ, Our Lord and God," given by President Lund.

Attending the conference were the following mission officers and missionaries: Mission President A. William Lund, and Sister Josephine B. Lund, President of the Mission Relief Society; President David H. Huish, and Elders Bert W. Bellamy, William T. Knapton, Glenn N. Hart, James R. Clark, David L. Rowley, Jr., H. Vernon Clegg, A. Wylie Snarr and Frank S. Naylor, all of the Bristol District; Elder Ralph W. Oborn, of the Welsh District; and Elder Stephen S. Moore, of the Hull District.

ELDER BERT W. BELLAMY, District Clerk.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Transfer:** On December 16th, Elder Louis A. Phelps, was transferred from the Liverpool to the Bristol District.

**Arrivals and Assignments:** The following missionaries for the British Mission arrived at Plymouth on December 7th, aboard the *America*, and have been thus assigned: Ferris H. Allen, Tremonton, Utah, and Dallas A. Berrett, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Hull District; Clarence Leigh Miller, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Erastus Wendell Stringfellow, Murray, Utah, to the Newcastle District; Cleon H. Kerr, Tremonton, Utah, and John Whitaker Taylor, Cokeville, Wyoming, to the Norwich District; Percy Lorenzo Matthews, Evanston, Wyoming, to the Scottish District; Elman Thomas Woodfield, Ogden, Utah, to the Welsh District.

On December 14th, Elder Franklin J. Bradshaw arrived in the British Mission, being transferred from the Czecho-Slovak Mission, and has been assigned to labour in the Liverpool District.

**Releases and Departures:** The following missionaries have been honourably released from their labours in the British Mission and have departed for their homes in America: Edward E. Drury, Jr.—Liverpool, Ulster and London Districts, released on October 31st, and Joseph A. Checketts—President of Bristol District and British Mission Secretary, released on November 1st, sailed from Cherbourg on November 27th, aboard the *George Washington*; Eugene Romney, Jr.—London and President Liverpool District, released on November 2nd, DeVon Y. Stewart—Bristol and Scottish Districts, released on November 15th, Willis R. Dunkley—Hull and Leeds Districts, released on November 25th, sailed from Cherbourg on December 4th, aboard the *President Roosevelt*; Lucian C. Reid—Sheffield and Birmingham Districts, President Leeds District, released on November 16th, William O. Tolman—Liverpool and Scottish Districts, released on November 25th, Raymond Searle—Leeds and Newcastle Districts, released on December 4th, sailed from Southampton on December 4th, aboard the *President Roosevelt*; John W. Adams—Birmingham and London Districts, and D. Ross Urie—Scottish and London Districts, released on November 25th, sailed from Cherbourg on December 14th, aboard the *America*; Merlin L. Hamilton—Newcastle and Bristol Districts, released on November 25th, sailed from Southampton on December 14th, aboard the *America*; Harold B. Rowell—London District and President Nottingham District, released on November 9th, Morgan C. Boley—Welsh and Nottingham Districts, Joseph R. Greenhalgh—Scottish and Newcastle Districts, Raymond H. Swensen—Sheffield, Free State and Newcastle Districts, J. Ferrin Gurney—Welsh and Scottish Districts, released on November 25th, Herbert C. Fletcher—Leeds District and President Hull District, released on November 30th, Harding H. Higham—Newcastle and Hull District, released on December 6th, Virgil J. Smith—Newcastle District and President Birmingham District, released on December 7th, and Leo V. Toombs—Hull and Newcastle Districts, released on December 11th, all sailed from Cherbourg on December 16th, aboard the *Leviathan*; Lester H. Belliston—Liverpool and Bristol Districts, released on November 25th, Thomas R. Butterfield—Manchester and Leeds Districts, Frederick W. Rallison, Jr.—Hull

and Leeds Districts, Richard M. Gledhill—Nottingham and Welsh Districts, and Virgil E. White—Sheffield and Welsh Districts, released on December 11th, all sailed from Southampton on December 16th, aboard the *Leviathan*.

Walter G. Windsor, of the Bristol District, released on December 4th, sailed for his home in America from Southampton on December 4th, aboard the *President Roosevelt*.

**Branch Conferences:** Of the Cirencester Branch, Bristol District, held on November 23rd. "The Story of the Gospel" was related in music and speech. The missionaries attending were: President David H. Huish, and Elders Glenn N. Hart, David L. Rowley, Jr., Lester H. Belliston and Merlin L. Hamilton.

Of the Bristol Branch, Bristol District, held on November 30th. The theme of the day was "The Life of Paul." President David H. Huish and Elder Bert W. Bellamy were present.

Of the Plymouth Branch, Bristol District, held on December 7th. The theme of the conference was "Prayer." There were present, Elders Junius E. Driggs and William Kenneth Lund, of the British Mission Office, with nine new missionaries from America, and President David H. Huish, and Elders James R. Clark and A. Wylie Snarr.

Of the Bury Branch, Manchester District, held on November 23rd, conjoint with the Sunday School conference. The local members and friends joined to make the day a success. President and Sister John Cummar, Jr., attended.

Of the Skelton Branch, Newcastle District, held on November 23rd. In the afternoon session, the Sunday School members presented a pageant built upon the need of a Redeemer. At the evening session, a continuation of this theme was enjoyed by the fifty persons attending. President Earl B. Cragun, and Elders Clarence H. Taylor, Arlow W. Nalder and Robert J. Smith were present.

Of the Oldham Branch, Manchester District, held on December 7th. The afternoon program was presented by Sunday School children. "What 'Mormonism' Offers the World" was given by young people of the Branch in short, well-prepared talks. Four local brethren were ordained to the office of Deacon in the Aaronic Priesthood. Elder Henry B. Squires was released as Branch President, succeeded by local Brother Albert Kershaw, with Brothers Frank Lomas and William J. Scate as counselors. President and Sister John Cummar, Jr., and Elders Richard M. Cowan and W. Kenneth Whatcott, and District Sunday School Supervisor Bertie Steele were present.

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BRITISH MISSION ADDRESS: A. WILLIAM LUND, PRESIDENT, 23 BOOTH STREET, HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM

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